CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

April 15, 1998

S. 1873 American Missile Protection Act of 1998

As introduced on March 27, 1998

S. 1873 would state that it is U.S. policy to deploy as soon as technologically possible an effective national missile defense system capable of defending the United States against limited ballistic missile attack.

CBO estimates that the bill, by itself, would have no budgetary impact. Because it would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. Any budgetary impact would stem from separate implementing legislation or from annual authorization and appropriation bills. How the costs of implementing the policy enunciated in S. 1873 would compare with costs likely to be incurred under current law would depend on the systems and time frame required by subsequent legislation.

Section 4 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 excludes from the application of that act any legislative provisions that are necessary for the national security. CBO has determined that all provisions of this bill fit within that exclusion.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Raymond Hall. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.